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A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information but have called for it.

(d) In 1931 the Government sanctioned an increase in the number of Honorary Presidency Magistrates in the City of Madras from 100 to 150, as it was represented to them that with 100 Honorary Magistrates it was found difficult to constitute the benches. Since then they have also decided to increase the number of such Magistrates sitting singly to give relief to the stipendiary Magistrates and the question of accommodation for these courts is now engaging their attention. The Government have at present no proposal under consideration to increase the number of Honorary Magistrates in those parts of the city where the number of pending cases is heavy.

Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar:—"The hon. the Law Member said that the work was heavy; yet he would not increase the number of Magistrates. May I request him to consider the question whether the number should be increased?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"It was recently increased from 100 to 150."

Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar:—"Is the hon. Member aware that the number of cases is heavy?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"It is not too heavy for 150 Magistrates."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"May I ask whether any honorarium is paid to these persons?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"No."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"Will the hon. the Law Member consider the advisability of transferring the court in Georgetown to Washermanpet?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"The Government were trying to find a building at Washermanpet but they were not able to do so."

Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar:—"Will the hon. Member be pleased to state the qualifications for those Honorary Magistrates?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"No special qualifications are prescribed."

Location of the Honorary Bench Magistrates' Court, Washermanpet.

* 306 Q.—Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Honorary Bench Magistrates' Court at Washermanpet is now located in Georgetown; and

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(b) whether the Government have received any complaints about the inconvenience caused to parties and Honorary Magistrates thereby?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the hon. the Law Member would consider the advisability of having the Honorary Magistrates' Court at Washermanpet instead of at Georgetown?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I have already given my answer to my hon. Friend, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, namely, the Government were trying to find a building at Washermanpet, but they were not successful so far."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"Is it not a fact that people from Mylapore have to go to the Egmore Court and, if it is so, will Mylapore have a court at Mylapore itself?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I want notice of the question."

Protest by the Adi-Dravidas in regard to the election of members to the Village Panchayat Court, Vadakku Valliyur.

* 307 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was an election of members for the Village Panchayat Court at Vadakku Valliyur in the month of March 1932;

(b) whether members of the Adi-Dravidas stood for election for the Panchayat Court;

(c) if so, how many;

(d) whether they succeeded in the contest;

(e) whether any objection was made to the Sub-Collector, Sermadevi, against the election conducted by the Election Officer;

(f) if so, what the decision of the officer was;

(g) whether any protest was made to the Government against the decision by the Adi-Dravidas;

(h) if so, what action was taken upon the same; and

(i) whether any memorial was addressed to the Government in the matter and whether the Government will be pleased to lay the memorial on the table of the House?

A.—(a) & (b) Yes.

(c) Two.

(d) Their candidature was rejected as they were not qualified under the rules.

(e) One of the candidates filed an objection petition before the Sub-Collector, Sermadevi.